Drought in Karnataka

341. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the amount sought by Karnataka to tackle the drought;

(b) the amount released so far, during 2002-2003; and

(c) the amount recommended by the Central team for Karnataka to tackle the drought?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (c) The State Government has sought assistance of Rs. 1562.85 crore from the National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF). The amount found admissible to the State is Rs. 221.46 crore. This is, however, subject to adjustment of the balance amount available in its Calamity Relief Fund (CRF).

Contingent plan against drought in A.P.

342. DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) what was the status of drought situation in Andhra Pradesh this year, giving the details of District-wise scanty and deficient rainfall in the State;

(b) whether Andhra Pradesh Government had drawn up contingent plan for alternate crops and resowing and supply of drinking water and fodder;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the assistance provided to the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (d) As on 30.9.2002, i.e. date of withdrawal of South-West Monsoon, 16 districts in Andhra Pradesh received deficient rainfall. No District was in scanty category. The State Government had drawn up

Contingency Plan wbich mainly included sowing of pulses, coarse grains and certain oilseeds in place of paddy. So far, 3 lakh MTs of rice has been allocated to the State in addition to release in advance in August of Central share of Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) amounting to Rs. 81.885 crore, due in November.

Facilities for drought hit farmers in A.P.

343. DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether special facilities wers extended by Government to the farmers of Andhra Pradesh, who were affected by recent drought conditions;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the role played by the State Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (c) In so far as the Central Government assistance for the relief in the event of Natural Calamities including droughts is concerned, it is given under the scheme of 'Financing Relief Expenditure' laid down by the 11th Finance Commission. The scheme envisages assistance to States primarily from Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) for each State to be funded by the Central and the State Government concerned in the ratio of 3:1. In the event of a severe calamity, additional assistance is admissible from the National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF) as per the procedure laid down under the NCCF scheme. These schemes are common to all States and envisage no special facilities for a particular State.

Setting up of Agriculture Finance Corporation

344. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO:
SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are thinking of formulating agricultural policy with 20 per cent as budgetary support and 25 per cent of the